

OBITUARY

Contributions to this column must be submitted exclusively to the BMJ.

R H MAINGOT FRCS

Mr R H Maingot, a leading abdominal surgeon of international reputation and a former consultant surgeon to the Royal Free Hospital and the Royal Waterloo Hospital, London, and Southend General Hospital, died on 3 January. He was 88.

Rodney Honor Maingot was born in Trinidad of British parents on 27 February 1893. He was brought to England as a child and received his early education at Ushaw College, Durham, before moving to London to study medicine at St Bartholomew's Hospital, qualifying in 1916 with the conjoint diploma. He then joined the RAMC and served in Egypt and Palestine and was twice mentioned in dispatches. After demobilisation in 1919 with the rank of captain he returned to London and became house surgeon and chief assistant to a surgical unit at St Bartholomew's Hospital. He took the FRCS in 1920 and was surgical registrar to the West London Hospital and clinical assistant to the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, before being appointed surgeon to the Royal Waterloo Hospital and Southend General Hospital. In 1945 he was appointed surgeon to the Royal Free Hospital; he was also consultant surgeon to the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Sydney, Australia. During the second world war he was regional consultant in surgery to the Emergency Medical Service.

Mr Maingot's interest in abdominal surgery was stimulated by the late Lord Moynihan of Leeds, and he was one of the first surgeons to perform gastrectomy for duodenal ulcer. He also made outstanding contributions to surgery of the gall bladder and bile duct. He established his reputation as an author and editor in the early days of his career: his *Management of Abdominal Operations* was published in 1931, *Post Graduate Surgery* in 1936, *Technique of Gastric Operations* in 1941, *The Surgical Treatment of Gastric and Duodenal Ulcer* in 1945, and *Techniques in British Surgery* in 1950, and many of these ran to several editions. *Abdominal Operations*, which he edited, continues to be highly regarded in both Great Britain and the United States. He was for many years editor in chief of the *British Journal of Clinical Practice* and chairman of the editorial board of the *London Clinic Medical Journal*.

Mr Maingot was a fellow of the Royal Society of Medicine, a member of its council, and past president of the section of surgery. He was also a fellow of the Association of Surgeons of Great Britain and Ireland. Awarded a Sydney Body gold medal in 1958, he retired from his hospital appointments at the end of that year but still retained a large private practice. In 1963 he delivered the Dr Frank H Lahey memorial lecture in Boston, USA. He was visiting professor in surgery at the Ohio State University Hospital in 1960; at the Mount Sinai Hospital, Miami, in 1963; and at the Maadi Hospital, Cairo, in 1967-8. His operating lists at the old Royal Free

Hospital in Grays Inn Road attracted surgical visitors from afar, and his command of surgical technique and wide knowledge of practice throughout the world made him a much-valued teacher.

In his early days Mr Maingot was a keen cricketer; in his later years he enjoyed golf and developed a great interest and skill in painting in oils, and his pictures were often to be seen in exhibitions.

He married first Rosalind Smeaton, of Brisbane, who died in 1957, and in 1965 he married Evelyn Pleach, of London, who survives him.

W D FRASER

MB, FFR, FRCS, DMRT

Dr W D Fraser, formerly senior radiotherapist to the General Hospital, Nottingham, died suddenly on 6 October 1981 aged 63.

William Dumbreck Fraser was born on 1 August 1918 in Kirkby-in-Ashfield, Nottinghamshire, where his father was in general practice, and was one of five sons, all of whom studied medicine. He was educated at Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School, Mansfield, and studied medicine at Glasgow University, graduating in 1942.

After a house appointment in the Western Infirmary, Glasgow, he joined the RNVR and saw active service in the north Atlantic as a surgeon with escort ships protecting convoys to America and Murmansk. At the end of the war he decided to specialise in radiotherapy and worked at the Christie Hospital, Manchester, moving to the General Hospital, Nottingham, in 1949 as registrar and gaining a consultant post there in 1952. He was responsible for the development of the Hogarth Radiotherapy Centre in Nottingham and was its director from 1955 to 1979, during which time it expanded greatly. He retired on 30 September last year but had only five days of retirement before dying suddenly while gardening.

Bill Fraser was a greatly admired and popular consultant, providing a radiotherapy service not only to Nottingham but also to Mansfield, Newark, and Grantham, where he held regular clinics. He had many interests apart from his work, being a keen freemason and a regular attender on the "doctors' shoot." His love of the countryside was shared by his family, and they spent as much time as could be spared at their cottage in Wales. Indeed, his greatest joy and interest were his family: he married Pip, a staff nurse, in 1949, and they have four children, one of whom graduated in medicine last year.—DWD.

M FOOTERMAN MRCS, LRCP

Dr M Footerman, who was formerly in single-handed general practice in Wimbledon, died in Guernsey on 7 November at the age of 81.

Mark Footerman spent his childhood in London and was educated at Kilburn Grammar School before moving to University College Hospital, where he qualified in medicine in 1925. In his student days he taught himself to play the saxophone, and between his various house jobs he found work playing with the Jack Hilton dance orchestra. Eventually he became medical officer at Hillingdon Hospital, after which, in 1932, he entered general practice in Hayes, Middlesex. In his spare time he served as Liberal town councillor and also became clinical consultant to the ear, nose, and throat department of University College Hospital and later to the St Helier Hospital group, a post that he held until his retirement. At the outbreak of war he was recruiting officer for medical officers for the Services, and he spent the latter half of the war serving in the Royal Army Medical Corps. Subsequently he set up in private practice in the West End of London before moving to Wimbledon in 1952 after the introduction of the Health Service, and he remained there in single-handed practice until his retirement in 1970.

Mark's interests included golf, tennis, and fishing, and he was an able handyman around the home. After his retirement to Guernsey he still maintained a keen interest in medicine, attending every postgraduate and BMA meeting, where his humour and lively questions were much appreciated. His knowledge, interest, and enthusiasm were soon utilised by the local branch of the Chest and Heart Association, for whom he ran a blood pressure trial, and he was working for this association until the week before his death. He is survived by his wife Gladys and three sons, one of whom is in medical practice.—DS.

W L ANDERSON MB, BCH

Dr W L Anderson, who was a consultant chest physician in Manchester, died on 28 September last year.

William Lambert Anderson was born in Paisley in 1914. After graduating in Glasgow in 1942 he worked in North Shields and later in Wharfedale Sanatorium. He moved to Baguley Sanatorium as medical officer in 1943 and in 1947 was appointed assistant tuberculosis officer to Manchester Chest Clinic, working for Manchester Corporation. After the establishment of the NHS he was appointed junior hospital medical officer and later senior hospital medical officer to Manchester Chest Clinic and Baguley Hospital and later Monsall Hospital. He was visiting chest physician to Booth Hall Children's Hospital, and in 1960 was appointed consultant chest physician.



William Anderson brought to the discharge of his professional duties a high sense of duty. He had a consuming interest in people and entered into the lives of his patients, whom he regarded in many ways almost as members of his family. He was widely respected and admired by the staffs of the hospitals where he worked for his personal qualities, professional skill, and concern. His knowledge and experience of tuberculosis were extensive: he lived through an exciting period of the development of treatment for this disease and saw every stage from sanatorium treatment through collapse therapy and surgery to modern chemotherapy. Booth Hall Children's Hospital had a particular place in his heart, and he presented a bookcase and journal display case to the library there. Children always delighted him, and I think that, given his time again, he would have devoted himself to paediatrics.

Dr Anderson was a totally loyal friend whose help and advice were always available when needed. He was completely free of cant and would always try to prevent those he loved from making fools of themselves, not being prepared to agree with them when he knew their actions to be foolish. He was a delightful and interesting companion with a genius for friendship, and his fund of stories, often Scottish, added to everyone's enjoyment of life. Above all he was devoted to his family.

Dr Anderson's later years were shadowed by his long illness. He suffered from chronic renal failure and worked for 13 years while receiving renal dialysis. It was in these years that he relied on the loving devotion and skill of his wife Mary and his great qualities of enormous courage, never-failing determination, and discipline were truly tested and displayed.—MO'C.

L LANGTON

MD, FRCP, FRCR, FFR, DMRD

Dr L Langton, consultant radiologist at Dudley Road Hospital, Birmingham, and the Midland Centre for Neurosurgery and Neurology, died on 16 November after a short illness.

Leonard Langton received his medical education at Leeds University and Medical School, where he also played rugby for the first team. Qualifying MB, ChB with distinction in 1944, he equipped himself with a thorough grounding in clinical medicine before taking up radiology. He proceeded MD in 1950 and gained the MRCP in 1951. This was



followed by radiological training at Sheffield University and the United Sheffield Hospitals, and in 1954 he was appointed senior registrar to the United Birmingham Hospitals. He gained the fellowship of the Faculty of Radiologists in 1957 and of the Royal College of Radiologists in 1975. In 1960 he became radiological consultant at the Midland Centre for Neurosurgery and Neurology and at Dudley Road Hospital, Birmingham, a post he held until his death.

As a diagnostician Leonard Langton was

superb. He was extraordinarily widely read in his subject and loved teaching, for which he seemed to have a special gift. His presentation of papers in the classical manner were always a delight, and he could make the most unpromising subject interesting by his careful research and lecture technique. He was secretary and meetings convener for the west Midlands association of radiologists, which he conducted with great skill and erudition. His special pride in recent years was election to the fellowship of the Royal College of Physicians.

By his staff Leonard will be remembered for his puckish sense of humour, his kindness, and the thoroughness of his work. He was greatly saddened by the premature death of his beloved wife Sheila: this was a loss from which he never completely recovered. After her death he devoted himself to replanning the x-ray department of the Midland Centre for Neurosurgery and Neurology, of which he was shortly to become head. Tragically, he will not now see his plans completed, but his ideas for the future will continue.—CPM.

Lady NICHOLSON

BM, BCH

Lady Nicholson, who worked in medicine until the end of the war, died as the result of an accident on 27 November.

Caroline Elizabeth MacNeice was born in Belfast, the daughter of the bishop of Down and the sister of the poet Louis MacNeice. She was educated at Sherborne School and St Hugh's, Oxford, where she took a second in the honours school of natural sciences in 1925. While a clinical student at the Charing Cross Hospital she married John Nicholson, a medical student at Barts. After qualifying MB, BCH in 1932 she held junior posts at the Retreat, York, and the Brook House Mental Hospital and was a junior member of the staff of the Tavistock Clinic until 1940. She served in the RAF medical branch from 1942 to 1945 and was mentioned in dispatches. After the war she maintained her interest in medicine, although she did not take up any formal appointment. She was, however, always indefatigable in her efforts to help others, especially the sick.

Elizabeth Nicholson had a fine mind and wide intellectual interests and thus was a splendid companion. Her unselfishness and generosity were inspiring to all and amazed even those who knew her well. She is survived by her devoted husband, who is the third baronet and a retired consultant surgeon.—R of L.

J KLAUBER

MA, BM, BCH FRCPsych

Dr J Klauber, who died several months ago, had a distinguished career in psychoanalysis. At the time of his death he was president of the British Psychoanalytical Society and had filled many important roles in that society over the past 20 years.

John Klauber took a degree in history at Oxford before doing army service as a captain in the Intelligence Corps, attached to the Eighth Army. He then studied medicine at Oxford and the Middlesex Hospital, graduating in 1951. After postgraduate work at the Maudsley Hospital he joined the academic department of psychiatry at the Middlesex

Hospital under Sir Denis Hill and thereafter devoted himself to the intensive practice and study of psychoanalysis and was in much demand as a therapist, training analyst, and supervisor. A gifted, painstaking writer he published many articles from 1961 onwards. His collected papers *Difficulties in the Analytic Encounter* (Jason Aronson) were published in 1981. His sensitivity as a clinician and his capacity to integrate his psychoanalytic skills and training in the historical method are well displayed.

John Klauber was a well-loved and respected figure both in this country and overseas. He played a leading part in re-establishing psychoanalysis in West Germany after the war and made frequent visits there to teach and to lecture, and he was concerned to preserve psychoanalysis in Hungary, the land of his ancestors. In 1981 he was appointed Freud memorial visiting professor at University College, London, and despite a severe coronary thrombosis early in 1981 he managed to complete his inaugural lecture, which was read in his memory, a fitting tribute to a distinguished teacher and scholar.—MP.

L M MOODY

CBE, MD, MRCP, LLD

Dr L M Moody, who until his retirement was in general practice in Kingston, Jamaica, died after a short illness on 19 November. He was 89.

Ludlow Murcott Moody was born on 1 November 1892 and educated at Woolmers Boys' School, Jamaica, before coming to England to study medicine at King's College, London. In 1919 he became the first Jamaican to obtain the MRCP; he proceeded MD in 1920. After working in the departments of physiology and bacteriology at King's College he returned to Jamaica and served as the government bacteriologist until 1925. He then entered general practice and contributed widely to the community and the profession, becoming president of the Jamaica branch of the BMA, president of the Medical Council of Jamaica, a magistrate, and a member of the Public Service Commission.

Dr Moody was always conscious of his debt to Woolmers School and served for 40 years on the board of trustees. He was responsible for many improvements and developments, his greatest contribution undoubtedly being the founding of a preparatory school. He was associated with the University of the West Indies from the outset, attending the first meeting of the provisional council in 1944 and later serving on the council of the college from 1947 to 1955. He represented the university's interest on the university hospital board from 1948 until 1977. In all his appointments he was respected and admired for his considered and temperate advice, constructive criticism, and realistically progressive outlook.

Dr Moody's life included many activities; he played several sports and captained the successful Jamaican team at Bisley in 1938. He



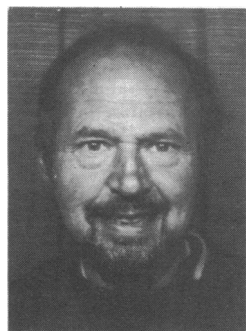
was particularly interested in breeding pedigree dairy cattle. On first acquaintance he appeared extremely upright and rather forbidding, but this belied the truth. His posture resulted from a sporting injury in his youth, and one quickly learnt of his tremendous fund of kindly humour. He was made a CBE in 1966 in recognition of his sustained contribution to both medicine and the community, and was awarded a doctorate of laws *honoris causa*, when he was described as "a careful scholar, an experienced practitioner, a medical jurist and a sound administrator, rooted in the soil of his own country but wise in the knowledge of others. . . ." He is survived by his wife Margaret and his daughter Pamela, who is also a doctor.—JGB.

A I BERWITZ

MRCS, LRCP, MRCPG

Dr A I Berwitz, a general practitioner in Clayton, Manchester, died suddenly on 5 December.

Arthur Ivor Berwitz was educated at Manchester Grammar School and Manchester Medical School, qualifying in 1948. He subsequently had a rewarding life in general practice, with wider interests in psychiatry and industrial medicine. He became medical officer to his old school, Manchester Grammar, a role he particularly enjoyed.



Dr Berwitz was an athletic person up until his death and in his younger days had been a keen tennis player, playing for Manchester University and the English universities. He was active in the rotary club and had a lifelong interest in the theatre: he took part in a considerable number of productions with the Stockport Garrick Theatre and was medical officer to all the major theatres in Manchester. He also enjoyed painting. He is survived by his devoted wife and four children.—CS.

S SMITHSON

LRCP&SED, LRCPGLAS

Dr S Smithson, who until his retirement was a general practitioner in Brixton, south London, died on 27 November aged 77.

Samuel Smithson was born in Johannesburg on 5 February 1904 and was educated at the University of Witwatersrand and the Royal College of Surgeons, Edinburgh, obtaining the Scottish triple qualification in 1929. After residential posts at the Gravesend and North Kent Hospital he took to general practice, first in Stamford Hill, north London, and then in the Lancashire mining town of Tyldesley. There, as a single-handed principal, he became the archetypal GP, with the care of his patients and their families his prime motivation. Tales abound of him walking through the snow to distant farmhouses to help a woman in labour or to see a sick child; and in the depression years of the 1930s he would, more often than not, omit to send in his account. In 1941 he

volunteered for the RAMC, serving in India and Burma as a specialist radiologist, in which post he was able to use his considerable mathematical and scientific abilities. After the war he settled in Brixton, again in single-handed practice, until ill health forced him to retire in 1966.

Sam Smithson's conscientious care allied with his gentle and unassuming nature earned him the love and trust of patients and colleagues. His thorough reading and regular attendance at postgraduate centres ensured that this care was based on up-to-date knowledge, but it was ever tempered with humanity and understanding. He died, as he lived, peacefully and thinking of the comfort and convenience of everybody except himself. He will be remembered as a scrupulous and sincere doctor of the school that believes that patients, their illnesses, and their problems transcend all other considerations.

In 1931 Dr Smithson married Annetta Saffer, and they had two daughters and a son.—HC.

F L A HUGHES

MB, CHB

Dr F L A Hughes, who was a general practitioner in Malton, north Yorkshire, for many years, died suddenly at his home on 9 December aged 77.

Frederick Lancelot Aylmer Hughes was the son of a Halifax doctor and after attending Uppingham School graduated from Leeds Medical School in 1927. Shortly afterwards he took a short service commission in the Royal Navy. On returning to civilian life he entered partnership in Malton, remaining in the same practice for the rest of his career. He wanted to rejoin the Navy at the outbreak of war but was not allowed to, and he always regarded the war years as the hardest of his professional life, with a reduced number of doctors taking on greatly increased commitments. He was a keen supporter of the BMA, being for some years chairman of the York branch, and was a member for many years of the north Yorkshire local medical committee. He was also past president of the York medical society. His interest in radiology was recognised when he was made a clinical assistant in that specialty at Malton Hospital on the inception of the NHS. Outside his medical work he was a founder and chairman of the Abbeyfield Society and Home in the town, he and his wife being the mainsprings of that organisation. He was also treasurer of the local Conservative association for many years.

Freddy was one of a generation of general practitioners who were willing to work for their patients at all hours and made them their first priority, and as a result he was much loved and respected. He always had a strong sense of duty to the community in which he lived, so that people from all walks of life would consult him, not only on medical matters, and would go away heartened by the sympathy and common sense with which he viewed their problems. Walking and gardening were his main hobbies, but in the latter years of his working life he was much handicapped by arthritis in his hips. After retirement he had a bilateral arthroplasty, which was an outstanding success, and he was able to resume his favourite activities and continue with them until his death.

In 1933 he married Kay, who survives him, and they had a happy life together; many will remember their kindness and hospitality. They had a son, and a daughter who, like her mother, became a nurse. There are five grandchildren, and these were all a source of great pride and enjoyment to both him and his wife.—SCF.

J P W HUGHES

TD, MD, DPH

Dr J P W Hughes, who had a distinguished career in occupational health, died on 7 December at his home in Henley aged 67.

John Philip Wyndham Hughes was educated at Highgate School and at University College Hospital, where he qualified MRCS, LRCP in 1938 and completed his house jobs. He obtained the MB, BS in 1941. He joined the medical unit of the University of London Officers' Training Corps as a cadet and rose to be its regimental sergeant major. On



qualifying he was granted a commission in the Territorial Army and was posted regimental medical officer to the London Irish. Mobilised on the outbreak of the war, he was soon in Kenya, where he spent the rest of the war, rising to the rank of colonel at the early age of 31. His enthusiasm brought him back to the Territorial Army on its reformation after the war and he continued to serve on various units, notably the Manchester General Hospital unit, until he reached retiring age. He held the Territorial Decoration and four bars. He was respected both for his clinical acumen as officer commanding medical division and for his knowledge of military matters, which extended far beyond the bedside.

After the war Dr Hughes was awarded a Rockefeller Foundation fellowship and took his DPH at the School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine in 1947, gaining an MD at the same time. He then spent a year in America at Yale University researching in industrial medicine. The next few years were spent in various academic posts at Oxford and Manchester universities and as physician in charge of the MRC antituberculosis unit at Birmingham. A spell with the MRC statistical research unit under Sir Austin Bradford Hill gained him valuable experience. In 1953 he joined the firm of Albright and Wilson as their principal medical adviser, a post he held until his retirement in 1976. During these years his reputation was firmly established and he chaired several important committees concerned with industrial health and especially with chemical hazards, in which he had a particular interest. He was also concerned about the problem of alcoholism in industry and with finding the best practical ways of dealing with it. A founder member of the Medical Council on Alcoholism, he was appointed chairman of its occupational health committee.

Dr Hughes worked to the highest professional standards and gave much thought to

achieving the proper balance between the interests of industry and those of the individual employee. He particularly believed in the importance of a wide knowledge of first aid and served as divisional surgeon to the 68th division of the St John Ambulance Brigade for 18 years. He was appointed serving brother in the Order of St John in 1976. He was a keen club man, and the Hunterian Society and the Organon Club were particular favourites of his. In private life he and his wife Daphne were noted for their bounteous hospitality, and they were never happier than when surrounded by family and friends, of whom there are many.—GW.

JSA writes: The impact of knowing John Hughes has had no less effect on my life than has his dynamic personality on the numerous friends, charities, businesses, and universities with which he was associated. I was fortunate in being able to learn from the enormous experience a lifetime dedicated to research and teaching had to offer, and I was reminded on numerous occasions never to forget those virtues of kindness, understanding, and honesty essential to a successful doctor, of which he was one of the best. I am not only indebted to him for the foundation of my career but also for allowing me to marry his daughter. Our only sadness is that his grandchild will never have the experience of meeting such a remarkable man.

W G WILSON

MB, CHB

Dr W G Wilson, formerly a general practitioner in Salford and, more recently, in Leuchars, Fife, died suddenly on 8 December.

William Glennie Wilson was born on 8 March 1906 in Bucksburn near Aberdeen. Educated at Gordon's College, Aberdeen, for a short spell he worked in a stockbroker's office before going on to study medicine at Aberdeen University, graduating in 1939. Before joining the Army in 1941 he was an assistant in general practice in Broughty Ferry, near Dundee, and after demobilisation in 1946 he became an assistant in a practice at West-houghton, Lancashire. In 1948 he was appointed a principal in Salford, where he built up a successful practice and was a police doctor for a considerable time. In 1968 he moved to a dispensing single-handed practice in Leuchars, Fife, where he remained until his retirement in 1974. He was a well-known figure among the RAF, helping the medical officers whenever needed.

Always interested in farming, Dr Wilson retired to the village of Mintlaw near his son's farm and the grandchildren he adored. He is survived by his wife Margaret and his son.—MW.

J McCULLOCH

MB, CHB, DPH

Dr J McCulloch, who retired from general practice at Dumbarton in 1962, died on 11 December at the age of 89.

Joseph McCulloch was born in Philadelphia, USA. His parents returned to their native Scotland a few years after his birth, taking up residence in Ayr, and he was educated at Ayr

Academy, gaining the Hamilton medal in classics. He graduated in medicine from Glasgow University in 1914 and then served in the RAMC throughout the war and in the army of occupation until 1920. He continued his association with the army as a territorial army medical officer to the 8th Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. In 1922 he took the DPH, and before entering general practice in Dumbarton in 1927 he spent three years as an assistant in Tighnabruaich, Argyllshire. He combined the running of his practice in Dumbarton with the duties of medical superintendent to the local fever hospital, an appointment that he held from 1938 until his retirement in 1962.

Dr McCulloch was active in the work of the BMA and served on the local medical committee for many years. As an Ayr man he was keenly interested in Burns and was a member of the Dumbarton Burns club for 54 years, being president in 1939. With his own pawky sense of humour he was a popular speaker at Burns suppers.

Dr McCulloch was a diligent general practitioner, well loved by his patients and highly respected by his colleagues. In 1928 he married Dr Marjorie Harris, and they enjoyed a happy family life, surrounded by a wide circle of family and friends. Marjorie died in 1973, and he is survived by his two sons, one of whom is a company solicitor while the other works in the practice that Dr McCulloch served so well.—AB.

N F W BRUETON

MB, CHB, FRCPATH

BL writes: When Neville Brueton (obituary, 2 January, p 61) came to see me to ask for an opportunity to practise clinical medicine again after his early retirement from the post of deputy medical director of the South-west Regional Blood Transfusion Centre he was extremely diffident about his abilities—as became such a modest and kindly man. Despite having to start what was essentially a new venture, however, he rapidly gained the requisite skills and, until illness forced his resignation, was a popular and much valued member of the staff of the department. He will long be remembered by those who were privileged to know him.

Sir ROBERT WRIGHT

DSO, OBE, FRCP, FRCS(ED), FRCS(GLAS)

GS writes: The obituary on Sir Robert Wright (12 December, p 1616) paid a handsome and proper tribute to his enormous contribution to the General Medical Council. I should like to comment on him as we in Glasgow knew him and to record some of his work for his hospital and the Glasgow college.

Bob Wright, as he was known to his many colleagues and friends, was a general practitioner's son from Overtown, near Glasgow. From that hard-working and humanitarian background of general practice in a depressed industrial area emerged many of the outstanding qualities that marked his professional life. In 1946, after the war, he was back in the Western Infirmary in Glasgow with Mr Murray Newton. There he consolidated his surgical training, including surgery of the thyroid and the thorax as well as his own interest of vascular surgery. No doubt this widely based experi-

ence was in the minds of the selection committee when in 1953 he was appointed surgeon in charge at the Southern General Hospital at the relatively young age of 38. With this he combined an appointment at the nearby Elder Cottage Hospital, where until his retirement he operated weekly and held an open-door surgical clinic which greatly endeared him to the people and general practitioners of Govan. His tenure of office at the Southern included membership of its board of management and saw the development of the surgical services there to a high level of competence under his firm and wise guidance, although he would be the first to acknowledge his debt to his colleagues.

Bob was admired especially by countless undergraduate students and juniors as a teacher and chief. His crisp, authoritative no-nonsense approach to a subject was exactly what students wanted (and patients too, for that matter). His chairmanship of the regional surgical postgraduate committee was marked by the development of a first-class rotation scheme for young surgical trainees, which continues today. He could have become an academic but his nature was not particularly suited to the atmosphere of a great university. He preferred to put his ideas into action without undue debate and delay and found his time on the faculty of medicine somewhat frustrating. He was, however, extremely proud to be awarded the honorary degree of LLD in June 1981.

It was in the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow that Bob found a real outlet for his active mind and pioneering spirit. By 1958 he was its treasurer, and he was elected visitor in 1966 and president in 1968. His forthright manner of speaking and his simple and clear presentation of the facts soon brought him to the attention of his colleagues as one whose opinions, although not always immediately welcomed, had to be respected. He was adamant on the preservation and improvement of educational standards and the place of the colleges in that task. He had many fresh ideas on the examination systems and on ways in which the colleges could co-operate in their improvement. The Royal College of Surgeons of England awarded him an honorary fellowship in 1975 in recognition of his personal contribution towards uniting college affairs. What is perhaps less well known is that his friendship with Lord Rosenheim resulted in the closest of co-operation between these two men at a time when the Colleges of Physicians (Glasgow representing both disciplines) were taking the first steps towards the development of the MRCP(UK). In recognition of Bob's role in this he was awarded the FRCP in 1971.

From 1970 onwards Bob was the Glasgow college's representative on the GMC, where he quickly made his mark. During this time he remained an active member of the college council, taking a full part in affairs and giving the wisest advice. In particular, he was instrumental in making the college known to many non-medical organisations in Glasgow. After such an active life, and still with so much to offer, it was unkind of fate to strike this great man of medicine, a lifelong non-smoker and non-drinker, in his first year of retirement and of presidential office in the GMC. Behind all his efficiency, energy, and obvious ability Bob was a kindly, warm-hearted, and quietly humorous man. Devoted to his work, his college, his church, to watching his beloved cricket, he was first of all a family man and a wonderful host.